

What is claimed is:

1. A wire termination device for providing a demarcation with subscriber lines comprising:
  - a) a base having a plurality of subscriber terminals and a telephone jack having jack contacts for interconnection with the subscriber terminals;
  - b) a moveable cover associated with the base to be selectively closed thereon;
  - c) a plug assembly on the cover having a prong portion that is disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, and
  - d) a conductive contact provided on the cover, the conductive contact having a portion that electrically connects with the jack contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive contact also being accessible from the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect wiring connections established by the wire termination device while the cover is closed.
2. The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the conductive contact is recessed within a cavity disposed on a forward portion of the cover.
3. The wire termination device of claim 2 wherein the cavity has an opening at an upper surface of the cavity for accessing the test contact.
4. The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the conductive contact comprises:  
a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the jack contact; and

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wherein the jack has a conductive member therein that is engaged by the bypass contact when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

5. The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the conductive contact comprises:

a metallic strip disposed along a side of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

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6. The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the conductive contact extends to a lower side of the prong portion and is positioned to physically contact the jack contact when the cover is in the closed position.

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7. A wire termination device comprising:

a) a base having a telephone jack with tip and ring contacts for establishing a telephone wiring connection;

b) a cover hingedly secured to the base to be selectively closed and opened thereupon;

20 c) a plug assembly retained by the cover, the plug assembly having a prong portion to be received within the jack and to thereby engage the tip and ring contacts to establish the telephone wiring connection when the cover is closed onto the base;

d) a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover, each being recessed within

a cavity that is open to the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect an electrical signal indicative of a telephone wiring connection established by the wire termination device; and

5 e) each conductive contact having a conductive portion located on the prong portion for making an electrical connection with one of the tip and ring contact wires while the cover is in a closed position.

8. The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises a metallic strip extending upwardly from the prong portion of the plug assembly to present the test contact proximate an upper portion of the plug assembly.

10 9. The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

15 a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the tip and ring contacts; and

20 wherein the jack has a pair of conductive members therein that are engaged by the bypass contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive members being electrically connected to the tip and ring contacts.

20 10. The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

a metallic strip disposed along a side of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

5 11. The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

a flexible metallic strip having a contacting portion that is biased outwardly from a lateral side of the prong portion.

10 12. The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

an electrically conductive member that extends to a lower side of the prong portion and is positioned to physically contact the tip and ring contacts when the cover is in the closed position.

15 13. A wire termination device comprising:

a base having a subscriber terminal assembly thereupon;

20 a jack containing tip and ring contacts or electrically interconnection with the subscriber terminal assembly;

a movable cover for the base, the cover having a plug portion that is removably inserted into the jack when the cover is closed onto the base; and

25 a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover, each of the conductive contacts being electrically interconnected with the subscriber terminal assembly.

14. The wire termination device of claim 13 wherein each of the conductive contacts presents a test contact for placement of a test probe thereon.

5 15. The wire termination device of claim 14 further comprising a pair of test probe access holes in the cover to permit the test probe to contact each test contact.

16. The wire termination device of claim 13 wherein the jack further contains a pair of conductive plates that are electrically interconnected with the tip and ring contacts.

10 17. The wire termination device of claim 16 wherein the conductive contacts each comprise a bypass member having a leg that is brought into contact with one of the conductive plates of the jack when the cover is closed onto the base.

15 18. A wire termination device comprising:

20 a) a base having a telephone jack thereupon for establishing a telephone wiring connection;

b) a cover associated with the base to be selectively closed thereon; and

c) means for transmitting a signal indicative of an established telephone wiring connection.

19. The wire termination device of claim 18 wherein the means for transmitting a signal comprises a conductive contact having a portion that is disposed within the jack when the cover

is closed onto the base and a test contact provided on the cover to be contacted by a test probe.

20. The wire termination device of claim 19 further comprising a plug assembly having a prong portion that is removably insertable into the jack and wherein the conductive contact is at least partially contained within the plug assembly.

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21. The wire termination device of claim 20 wherein the conductive contact comprises a bypass contact having a leg that is disposed upon an outer surface of the plug assembly.

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22. A wire termination device comprising:

a base having a plurality of subscriber terminals, a pair of telephone company terminals, and a telephone jack disposed thereon, the jack having tip and ring contacts therein;

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a cover that is hingedly affixed to the base;

a plug assembly mounted on a forward portion of the cover, the plug assembly having a prong portion that is disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base; and

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a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover, each of the conductive contacts having a lower portion that establishes an electrical connection within the jack when the cover is closed and a test contact located proximate an upper portion; and

a pair of openings disposed within the forward portion of the cover to permit entry of a test probe to detect a telephone wiring connection established by the wire termination device.

23. The wire termination device of claim 22 wherein:

each of said pair of conductive contacts comprises a metallic strip disposed along a side

of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to one of the tip and ring contacts.